

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU, REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT OF ZAMBIA AT THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 74TH SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY



HIS EXCELLENCY
EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU

THEME: GALVANIZING MULTILATERAL EFFORTS FOR POVERTY ERADICATION, QUALITY EDUCATION, CLIMATE ACTION AND INCLUSION

The theme of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly presents an opportunity to re-examine the priorities, define the mission, and sharpen the vision for the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.

The theme is a call to harness the atmosphere in which the United Nations family can implement its **priority programmes especially in key areas such as poverty in order to enhance human conditions throughout the world.**

Zambia applauds the United Nations for its leadership in tackling climate change as seen by the Climate Action Summit hosted this year.

Climate change is frustrating efforts to raise the standards of living for the world's poor especially its devastating effects on the environment.

In its effort to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, **Zambia is implementing efforts towards diversifying energy sources, increasing adaptive capacity and building resilience to reduce vulnerability against extreme weather events such as floods and droughts.**



ONE



TWO



THREE



FOUR



FIVE

Zambia has made important developmental efforts in fostering an all-inclusive development paradigm based on the African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Due to its continued efforts in implementing regional and global agendas, Zambia was honoured to host the launch and house the Sustainable Development Goals Sub-Regional Centre for Southern Africa.

To achieve this, Government through the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) has targeted the most vulnerable in society to enhance their capacity in their involvement in the country's economic and social sectors in an effort to raise their standards of living.

Zambia has taken steps to ensure **equitable access to quality education for all by providing universal basic education within the shortest realistic timeframe.**

Underway is a comprehensive **Health Reform Program** aimed at improving the wellbeing of the people.

Zambia has made strides in the campaign against child marriages and has continued to engage traditional leaders to reform traditions and customs, which promote child marriages.

Through the engagement with traditional leaders, **the country is in the process of harmonizing statutory and customary law on marriage to prohibit early marriages.**



SIX



SEVEN



NINE



TEN



ELEVEN



TWELVE

The centre underscores the collective resolve by Southern African countries in the **war against poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy through the exchange of best practices and joint action.**

For Zambia, the centre will be a vehicle that facilitates engagement between Government and other stakeholders, accelerates the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals and deepens regional integration.

The Government is repealing several discriminatory and outdated statutes related to children in order to come up with a children's code that will domesticate the provisions of the convention on the rights of a child.

As a signatory to several international instruments aimed at countering the threats of proliferation, Zambia recently hosted a SADC regional awareness meeting on the implementation of the resolution 1540 of 2004 on the vital element of global architecture to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons to non-state actors including terrorists.

In this regard, the Zambian Government recently established an Anti-terrorism Centre, a national body comprising all national stakeholders to coordinate and counter terrorism of individual security agencies.

Time has come for the Security Council to be representative, democratic and accountable to all member states, irrespective of status. This is essential for its integrity as the custodian of international peace. As such, Africa constitutes the second largest block of the UN membership; therefore proposals to reform the Security Council should heed Africa's call as espoused in the Ezulwini consensus.

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Unlocking Zambia's Potential
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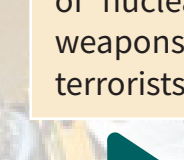
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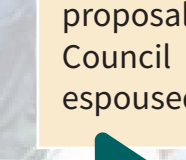
FIFTEEN



SEVENTEEN



EIGHTEEN



NINETEEN